

REMARKS

Claims 1, 12, 21, 31, 32, 41, 69, 70, and 77 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of cancelled Claims 5, 15, 25, and 35. In addition, the dependency of Claims 6, 7, 16, 17, 26, 27, and 36 has been appropriately changed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)


Claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 12, 14, 20-22, 24, 30-32, 34, 40, 69, 70, 73, 75, and 77 have been rejected as anticipated by JP 62-46260 (Kamiyama et al.). Applicants traverse this rejection on the merits because it is believed that the cited reference is directed to "analytical elements" that are not radiation-sensitive, that is, the analytical elements are those commonly used to detect analytes in blood or urine. If the Examiner has knowledge otherwise, she is encouraged to state it for the record.

In order to expedite prosecution to allowance without waiting for a translation, it is believed that the noted amendment of the various independent claims renders them allowable.

In addition, Claim 41 and 77 have been rejected as anticipated by US 6,252,003 (Kuwahara et al.). While this rejection is also traversed on the merits, the noted amendments to Claims 41 and 77 overcome the rejection.

In view of the foregoing amendments, reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested. A prompt and favorable action by the examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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